

do with doctors' bills: Pay \$25 a month, get 80 percent of the costs of prescription drugs covered by the Federal Government through Medicare. There is a \$100 deductible and a 20 percent copayment.

I would hate to see the Republicans take the election results as a mandate to say they should not have a Medicare prescription drug benefit and instead should move towards a private scheme. Frankly, I do not think that is what the average senior wants. I do not think that is what the average senior thinks that the Republican Party stands for.

The problem is that the Republican Party, through the pharmaceutical industry, spent so much money convincing the electorate that this is the way to go, I do not think that the public really understands what the Republican proposal for prescription drug benefit is all about.

The same is true with regard to the need for health insurance and also with HMOs, and we will get into that another time. But I am simply saying to my colleagues on the Republican side, if they want to see progress on health care reform, sit down with the Democrats and work with us because this is something that must be addressed on a bipartisan basis in the next Congress.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, all religious traditions exhort disciples of faith to open their minds, their hearts, and any door with the gracious gift of hospitality. You ask Your people to be considerate to every stranger and every visitor. Bless today this House of Representatives as we welcome the newly-elected to orientation and receive again visitors from across this country and from other nations. May all who come here find in congressional Members, staff, the Capitol Police, official guides and all who work here, people of Your own making, who are gracious in manner, kind in word, generous in time, and open to every question and need of a guest.

In the midst of the primary tasks You set before this Congress, may we all find in this place a rich experience of America's great gifts of freedom,

equal justice, productivity, and true happiness. Bless us here and bless America now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CULBERSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CULBERSON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

COMMUNICATION FROM CASEWORK DIRECTOR/OFFICE AND SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR OF HON. JOHN M. MCHUGH, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from Joann E. Humphries, Casework Director/Office and Systems Administrator of the Hon. JOHN M. MCHUGH, Member of Congress:

NOVEMBER 7, 2002.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House, that I have been served with a trial subpoena for testimony and documents issued by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoenas is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

JOANN E. HUMPHRIES,
*Casework Director/
Office and Systems Administrator.*

PRAISING THE FIVE HIGGINS BROTHERS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, with yesterday marking Veterans Day, I rise to commend the valiant service of all of the men and women who have served America in the armed forces. In particular, I want to recognize the Higgins family of Colum-

bia, South Carolina who had 5 sons serving our Nation during World War II.

Elliott Higgins served as a Captain with Army Intelligence under General George Patton in Germany; Harold Higgins served as a Sergeant with the Army Air Corps in Europe; John Higgins served as a Corporal with the Army on stateside assignments; Patrick Higgins enlisted with the Merchant Marines in the North Atlantic; and the youngest, Ross Higgins, at age 17 joined the Navy and served in the Pacific Theater.

We should also remember the five Sullivan brothers from Iowa who died together on the USS Juneau after the Japanese torpedoed their ship. After their deaths, President Roosevelt began a policy that brothers should serve in different branches of the Armed Forces.

This enabled the 5 Higgins brothers to serve our Nation with honor, and we will always be indebted to the sacrifices made for our country by veterans and their families.

TIME FOR CONGRESS TO ADDRESS THE ECONOMY

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, during morning hour and once again, I want to thank or congratulate, I should say, the Republicans on their election victories last Tuesday, but I would say that now that they will control both the House and the other body, as well as the presidency, they have the obligation to address the Nation's economic woes. They cannot continue to mask the economic slump that we face.

During the last week, there was news, this is in the International Herald Tribune from November 2 to 3 of this year, and it says, "Indications that the United States may be headed for a renewed slump have piled up over the last week, with weakness spreading from manufacturing to employment to consumer spending. The bad news culminated Friday with reports of a rising jobless rate and softness in a variety of other indicators."

"The government reported that the unemployment rate rose last month to 5.7 percent from 5.6 percent the previous month."

"In yet another bit of bad news, a survey that tracks activity of corporate purchasing managers, a key gauge of manufacturing strength, showed another drop. The Institute for Supply Management said its manufacturing index fell once again."

The Republicans are in the majority now and soon in both Houses. They have to address the economy. It is their obligation to do so, Mr. Speaker.

PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN

(Mr. EHLERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1